

August 28, 2002

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

**Subject: Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362  
Licensee Event Report No. 2002-003  
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3**

Gentlemen:

This submittal provides a Licensee Event Report (LER) for an occurrence involving the actuation of the Reactor Protection System and Main Steam Isolation System at Unit 2. While this occurrence is applicable to both Units 2 and 3, a single report for Unit 2 is being submitted in accordance with Section 5.2.7(8) of NUREG 1022, Revision 2.

Any actions listed are intended to ensure continued compliance with existing commitments as discussed in applicable licensing documents; this LER contains no new commitments. If you require any additional information, please so advise.

Sincerely,

*Raymond Waldo*

LER No. 2002-003

cc: E. W. Merschoff, Regional Administrator, NRC Region IV  
C. C. Osterholtz, NRC Senior Resident Inspector, San Onofre Units 2 & 3

*IE22*

NRC FORM 366 (MM-YYYY)		U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION		APPROVED BY OMB NO. 3150-0104		EXPIRES MM-YYYY		
<b>LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)</b>  (See reverse for required number of digits/characters for each block)								
FACILITY NAME (1) <b>San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station (SONGS) Unit 2</b>				DOCKET NUMBER (2) <b>05000-361</b>		PAGE (3) <b>1 of 3</b>		
TITLE (4) <b>Inadequate Procedure Results in Incorrect Adjustment of the Steam Bypass Control System Causing a Reactor Trip.</b>								
EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)		
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
06	30	2002	2002	003	00	08	28	2002
			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)					
			FACILITY NAME <b>SONGS Unit 3</b>			DOCKET NUMBER <b>05000-362</b>		
			FACILITY NAME			DOCKET NUMBER		
OPERATING MODE (9)		THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR §: (Check all that apply) (11)						
1		20 2201(b)		20 2203(a)(3)(i)		50 73(a)(2)(i)(C)		50 73(a)(2)(vii)
POWER LEVEL (10)		20 2201(d)		20 2203(a)(3)(ii)		50 73(a)(2)(ii)(A)		50 73(a)(2)(vii)(A)
018		20 2203(a)(1)		20 2203(a)(4)		50.73(a)(2)(ii)(B)		50 73(a)(2)(vii)(B)
		20.2203(a)(2)(i)		50 36(c)(1)(i)(A)		50 73(a)(2)(iii)		50 73(a)(2)(ix)(A)
		20.2203(a)(2)(ii)		50 36(c)(1)(ii)(A)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50 73(a)(2)(iv)(A)		50 73(a)(2)(x)
		20.2203(a)(2)(iii)		50.36(c)(2)		50 73(a)(2)(v)(A)		73 71(a)(4)
		20 2203(a)(2)(iv)		50.46(a)(3)(ii)		50 73(a)(2)(v)(B)		73 71(a)(5)
		20 2203(a)(2)(v)		50 73(a)(2)(i)(A)		50 73(a)(2)(v)(C)		OTHER
		20 2203(a)(2)(vi)		50 73(a)(2)(i)(B)		50 73(a)(2)(v)(D)		
LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)								
NAME <b>R. W. Waldo, Station Manager, Nuclear Generation</b>						TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) <b>949-368-8725</b>		
COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)								
CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO EPIX	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	REPORTABLE TO EPIX
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)						EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)		
YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE).				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO				MONTH DAY YEAR

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately 15 single-spaced typewritten lines) (16)

On June 30, 2002, plant operators were performing startup testing at the end of the Unit 2 Cycle 12 Refueling Outage. At that time, the reactor was at about 18 percent thermal power. In response to a small steam imbalance, the Steam Bypass Control System (SBCS) "quick opened" all four SBCS valves. This caused steam pressure to decrease to the low steam generator pressure trip setpoint, which in turn caused reactor protection system (RPS) and main steam isolation system (MSIS) actuations.

The Unit 2 RPS and MSIS actuations occurred because the SBCS Dynamic Response Module (DRM) had been improperly adjusted during the Unit 2 Cycle 12 refueling outage. This adjustment error was caused by an inadequate procedure.

On July 5, 2002, the Unit 2 SBCS DRM was adjusted to its correct values; On August 10, 2002, the Unit 3 SBCS DRM was adjusted to its correct values.

SCE concludes that this event was of very low to no safety significance. The SBCS is not credited in the accident analysis and safety systems functioned correctly.

## LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

## TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME(1)	DOCKET (2)	LER NUMBER (3)			PAGE (3)
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Unit 2	05000-361	2002	- 003 -	00	2 of 3

Plant: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3

Event Date: June 30, 2002

	<u>Unit 2</u>	<u>Unit 3</u>
Reactor Vendor	Combustion Engineering	Combustion Engineering
Power	18 percent	100 percent

**Background:**

San Onofre Units 2 and 3 each has a steam bypass control system (SBCS) [EIS System Code JJ]. The SBCS limits the potential increase in steam generator (SG) [SG] pressure that could occur following plant transients such as a turbine trip. The SBCS controls SG pressure by venting steam from the SGs to the main condenser [COND].

The SBCS consists of four steam bypass control valves [V], associated piping, and the sensors and control circuitry to operate them. During a small steam imbalance, the SBCS will modulate the valves open in groups of two relatively slowly. For larger imbalances, the SBCS will generate "Quick Open" signals at two different thresholds levels. At the first threshold, the SBCS will send a quick open signal to valve pair 1 (2HV8424 and 8426), which will open the valves with a quick open function and remain open for a preset time. At the second threshold, the SBCS will quick open valve pair 2 (2HV8423 and 8425) and maintain them open for a preset time. After SBCS valves quick open sequence is completed, the SBCS can modulate the valves to maintain the SGs at setpoint pressure.

**Description of the Event:**

On June 30, 2002, plant operators (utility, licensed) were performing startup testing at the end of the Unit 2 Cycle 12 Refueling Outage. At that time, the reactor was at about 18 percent thermal power, and the SBCS was in automatic with valve pair 2 modulating steam flow.

At 18:55 PDT a small change in steam flow caused the SBCS to generate a quick open to valve pair 1. Steam flow then increased and valve pair 2 began modulating closed. When the quick open signal to valve pair 1 cleared, valve pair 1 closed rapidly (as designed). The resulting rapid decrease in steam flow caused the SBCS to generate a second quick open signal that was large enough for all four SBCS valves to quick open. This caused steam pressure to decrease to the low SG pressure trip setpoint, which in turn caused reactor protection system (RPS) and main steam isolation system (MISIS) actuations.

On June 30, 2002, at 2133 PDT, Southern California Edison (SCE) made a 4-hour telephone notification to the NRC Operations Center (Log No. 39032) in accordance with 10CFR50.72(b)(2)(iv)(B) for actuation of the RPS and MSIS {Engineered Safety Features (ESF)} actuation. SCE is providing this 60-day follow-up report in accordance with 50.73(a)(2)(iv)(A).

NRC FORM 366A (MM-YYYY)		U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION												
<b>LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)</b> TEXT CONTINUATION														
FACILITY NAME(1) <b>San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Unit 2</b>	DOCKET (2) <b>05000-361</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="padding: 2px;">LER NUMBER (6)</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">YEAR</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">SEQUENTIAL NUMBER</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">REVISION NUMBER</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2002</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">- 002 -</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">00</td> </tr> </table>			LER NUMBER (6)			YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	2002	- 002 -	00	PAGE (3) <b>3 of 3</b>
LER NUMBER (6)														
YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER												
2002	- 002 -	00												

**Cause of the Event:**

The Unit 2 RPS and MSIS actuations occurred because the SBCS Dynamic Response Module (DRM) had been improperly adjusted during the Unit 2 Cycle 12 refueling outage. This adjustment error was caused by an inadequate procedure.

In October 2000, procedure SO23-II-8.32, "Steam Bypass Control System Functional Test," had been modified to require individual SBCS module checks and calibration instead of the previous loop style check. This change was intended to facilitate discovery of individual module setting drift and/or malfunctions. The DRM settings for gain and time constant are interdependent and changing one will affect the other. This detail was not provided in the procedure. Additionally, the procedure did not include an effective final test to verify the quick open feature performed correctly.

**Corrective Actions:**

1. On July 6, 2002, the Unit 2 SBCS DRM was adjusted to its correct values (MO 02070223001).
2. On August 10, 2002, the Unit 3 SBCS DRM was adjusted to its correct values (MO 02070646000).
3. A reading assignment will be provided to appropriate engineering personnel and maintenance I & C procedure writers on the root cause for this event.
4. Procedure SO23-II-8.32 will be revised to require measuring and recording the DRM gain and a post maintenance verification test that checks the calibration of the SBCS quick open circuit.

**Safety Significance:**

SCE concludes that this event was of very low to no safety significance. The SBCS is not credited in the accident analysis and safety systems functioned correctly.

UFSAR Sections 15.1.1.3 and 15.10.1.1.3 evaluate a postulated event where a failure in the SBCS causes one or more of the bypass valves to fully open with the plant at full power. The UFSAR analysis shows that all of the event acceptance criteria (DNBR, offsite doses, peak linear heat rate, peak RCS pressure, and peak secondary pressure) are met.

**Additional Information:**

In the last two years, there have been no other occurrences of an inadequate procedure resulting in ESF actuations.